

OCTOBER 2025

SUPPORT SERVICES UPDATE



GADSDEN TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Director Dr. Willie Jackson

GTC is Fiscally Sound: Both Perkins and Adult Education grants have transferred to the Department of Labor (DOL) and ready for pull down. Award letters for all 12 grants have been received.

Pell Grant Disbursement: One hundred percent (100%) of students have received financial aid disbursement.

Single Sign On (SSO): GTC Transitioned to the new Azure B2C SSO Portal on 10-10-2025.

Student Outcomes: Eleven of eleven (100%) Nursing students passed the NCLEX on the first try. Seven students completed the GED requirements and five have only one test remaining.

Projects: The Tiny House construction is underway. An expected completion date is set for spring. The AS Degree classroom renovation is nearing completion.

Applications: The Florida Postsecondary Transition Program (FPTP) application has been submitted to DOE for approval. The grant award is expected in January 2026.

Operations: The student management system (FOCUS) challenging areas have been reduced to better support student operations. The Assessment Center is operational for testing but needs upgrades to accommodate more students.

Expansion and Growth: The campus is running out of space to accommodate growth based on the strategic plan. Over the next year, GTC will seek funding to build a new 4000 square feet building to house a School of Education.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

October 30, 2025

Quincy Area 3 Trick or Treat

November 10, 2025

**HMS vs WGMS Volleyball
@ WGMS 4:00pm**

November 13, 2025

**HMS vs CACS @ HMS
Volleyball 4:30pm**

November 2025

**Gadsden County Commissioners
Meeting: Half Cent Ordinance**



*Success is achieved through effort,
determination and perseverance.*

*Perseverance is the hard work you
do after you get tired of doing the
hard work you already did.*

TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

Matthew Bryant, Director

- All drivers and bus attendants completed McKinney Vento (homeless) training with Mr. Gary Russ-Sills.
- FTE student data completed on October 10, 2025.
- The Community Traffic Safety Team met at the District's Transportation Department on Thursday, October 27th to discuss traffic safety issues or concerns throughout Gadsden County. The team consists of the following: Gadsden County School District, The County of Gadsden, City of Quincy, all local Police Departments, Florida Highway Patrol, Department of Transportation, State Departments handling road safety and construction.

Human Resource Department

Director Dr. Sonya Jackson

Status of Ongoing Key Departmental Activities/Projects

- October New Hire (10), Resignations (3)
- Office visits for October in the Human Resources Department (115)
- Substitute Training for Teachers, Custodians, and Food Services: 10/2/25, 10/16/25, and 10/24/25
- Total Number of Substitutes: Teachers (78), Food Service (22), and Custodians (21)

Anticipated Activities/Projects for the Subsequent Month

- Career Source Training on October 31, 2025
- Verification of vacancies in schools
- Site visits with Principals
- Union Meetings, GCCTA and Supplement Committee
- Performance Pay

MIS Department

Darlene Youmans, Coordinator

Ongoing Key Departmental Activities/Projects

Activity	Status
Create Files for User Provisioning in the FLDOE SSO migration	Ongoing
Set up a Process to improve In/Out of field designation in FOCUS	Ongoing
Correct data issues within Performance Matters	Ongoing
Preparing for Survey 2: student and staff	Ongoing
Processing Survey 6: student	Complete
Work with HR to facilitate the teacher increase	Ongoing
Processing Direct Certification Data	Ongoing
Send the Safety Shield reunification data file	Ongoing
Creating Parent Portal letters for schools	Ongoing
Engaging in the State AGO audit process	Ongoing
Roll out District-Wide Uniform Gradebook changes	Complete
Processing Report Cards	Complete
DMV and Learnfare Configuration	Ongoing
Customize a Separate FOCUS Configuration for Nursing School	Ongoing
WDIS Surveys F and G	Complete
Loading Test Scores	Complete

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

Dr. Sheantika Wiggins – Director John Thomas - Network Coordinator

The Technology Department has completed and supported several key projects across school sites to ensure safety, security, instructional continuity, and testing readiness. Below is a summary of recent work completed:

Gadsden County (GCHS): Coordinated and completed installation of new football field score board; Repaired entrance marquee lights to provide lights at the road for safety entering the school at night.

Greensboro Elementary (GREB) – repaired major fiber on portable.

Chattahoochee Elementary School (CES) – Installed new Paxon door ID card reader for staff to enter from the bus circle side of school.

Stewart Street Elementary School (SSES) – Replaced and installed 13 phones; updated network

Havana Magnet School (HMS): Install Nurses stations and printers

Gadsden Technical College (GTC) – Replace switches in Automotive area/building; Installed TrueTouch board in nursing building

These efforts reflect the department's continued commitment to maintaining secure, functional, and reliable technology resources across all campuses, while responding quickly to site-specific challenges.

HALF CENT SALES TAX TIMELINE

Month	Activity
October 2025	School Board approves Resolution to place Half Cent Sales Tax Referendum on the November 2026 ballot.
November 2025	County Commissioners approve an Ordinance to place the Half Cent Sales Tax Referendum on the November 2025 ballot.
December 2025	Gadsden County School Board submits the Half Cent Sales Tax Referendum to Florida OPPAGA (Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability). The Ordinance must be submitted to OPPAGA at least 180 days (approximately 6 months) before the referendum is held.
January 2026	OPPAGA assigns an Audit Team to conduct a Financial and Facilities Maintenance Audit.
March-May 2026	The OPPAGA audit team conducts a Financial and Facilities Maintenance Audit and submits a Final Report to the District and OPPAGA.

SCHOOL SAFETY DEPARTMENT

Lieutenant Tiffany Parsons-Buckhalt, School Safety Specialist

- Substitute training for Active Assailant conducted twice a month.
- Conducted the District Threat Management Team meeting.
- Continuing to support School Based Threat Management Team members with the new threat Management portal online.
- I attended Juvenile Court on October 9, 2025, to receive updates on our students currently on active probation.
- I attended the Extended Executive Team Meeting at the district office.
- The Office of Safe Schools made two unannounced visits at James A. Shanks Middle School and Crossroad Academy Charter School.
- Attended several school-based threat management team meetings and assisted with threat assessments.
- I attended the School Board workshop on October 15, 2025
- I participated in several active assailant training courses on school campuses.
- Office of Safe Schools conducted Chair/Vice Chair Threat Management training at the district office on October 21, 2025.
- I attended FS3 Regional Safety Conference in Walton County on October 23, 2025.
- After conducting school campus walk through, I discovered several safety issues and submitted work orders for repair.
- I have attended several meetings with FLDOE, OSS, FS3 and law enforcement to continue to receive new state statutes and compliance requirements.
- Prepared and maintained a Threat Assessment log for compliance.
- Will be attending the District School Board Meeting on October 28, 2025.
- Continue to prepare schedules, invoices, and maintain coverage for safety officers at CPA, GBES and JASMS.
- I continue partnership with other law enforcement agencies regarding when our students are arrested or violating juvenile probation.

FAMILY & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT OFFICE

Gary Russ-Sills, Coordinator

Volunteer Services & Families in Transition Services

- As of **September 15th**, the office has released an updated volunteer process memo and volunteer application, which includes a **Level II background check** for ALL volunteers at a price of **\$70**. These background checks will be conducted in the Human Resources office.
- Student Climate Surveys were released to schools on **September 1st** and thanks to **Chattahoochee Elementary, Carter Parramore Academy, Geroqe W. Munroe Elementary, and Havana Magnet** for administering the surveys. These surveys help to ensure that we are aligning services and resources to meet the needs of the students.
- Mr. Russ-Sills attended the **Florida Conference on Ending Homelessness** in Orlando, FL from **October 20th – 23rd**, which allowed the establishment of meaningful relationships and obtainment of vital information to help support our families in transition.
- **DOE Self-Certification** for compliance for **Title IX** was completed and provided to Federal programs to ensure that the office is aligned to monitoring metrics. **McKinney-Vento Program** trainings have been conducted at schools to ensure that teachers and staff are able to identify and support students in need of support services.

Truancy & Attendance Compliance Services

- Thanks to **Geroqe W. Munroe Elementary, Shanks Middle and Chattahoochee Elementary** for submitting their student attendance acknowledgement forms. These acknowledgement forms serve as the first stage of interventions to support students and families in regular attendance.
- 1st 9 weeks (45 day) attendance reports were run on **October 14th** and preliminary data show that the district has a **34% rate** of students with attendance below 90% (chronic absent). The school with the lowest percentage is **Chattahoochee Elementary (4%)** and the highest is **Gadsden County High (48%)**. AIT meetings are being scheduled with school-level teams to examine what interventions have been implemented, as well as what steps need to be taken to support students.

Home Education & Virtual Instruction Office

- We currently have a total of **(28)** students using the Gadsden Virtual Instruction Program, whereas **(20)** are enrolled in the **PAEC FLVS Franchise** and **(8)** are enrolled in the **K12 platform**. Over **(243)** annual evaluations requests have been sent to parents of students who have outstanding annual evaluations due to our office.

Upcoming Events:

- Teacher of the Year & School-Related Employee of the Year Voting – **Monday, Oct. 27th - Wednesday, Oct. 29th**

BASKETBALL SCHEDULES

GCHS

GCHS: Boys

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/17	Lincoln High		6/7:30pm
11/21	Bainbridge	AWAY	7:30pm
12/2	Bainbridge	HOME	7:30pm
12/8	Lincoln High		6:00pm
12/10		HOME	6/7:30pm
12/12	FSUS	AWAY	6/7:30pm
12/13	Gulf County Tournament	AWAY	6/7:30pm
12/16	Madison County	HOME	6/7:30pm
12/18	Franklin	AWAY	6/7:30pm
12/19	C.C. Classic	TSC	6/7:30pm
12/20	C.C. Classic	TSC	6/7:30pm
01/02	FAMU DRS	AWAY	6/7:30pm
01/06	CACS	AWAY	6/7:30pm
01/12	Rickards	HOME	6/7:30pm
01/12	FAMU DRS	HOME	6/7:30pm
01/17	Godby	HOME	6/7:30pm

HMS: Boys and Girls

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/8	Florida A&M	HOME	1:00pm
11/10	Tallavanna (B)	AWAY	1:00pm
11/13	Crossroad Academy	HOME	5:30pm
11/15	Florida A&M	AWAY	1:00pm
11/17	Bainbridge Middle	HOME	4:30pm
11/19	West Gadsden Middle	AWAY	6:00pm
12/02	Tallavanna (B)	HOME	1:00pm
12/04	Shanks Middle	AWAY	6:00pm
12/06	Superintendent's Classic Boys Only	HMS	9:00am
12/08	Bainbridge Middle	AWAY	5:30pm
12/11	West Gadsden Middle	HOME	6:00pm
12/16	Community Christian	HOME	5:30pm
12/17	Crossroad Academy	AWAY	5:30pm
01/08	Community Christian	AWAY	5:30pm
01/15	Crossroad Academy	HOME	5:30pm

JASMS: Girls (5:30/6:00pm) and Boys (6:30/7:00pm)

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/04	FAMU DRS	AWAY	6/7:00pm
11/06	Tallavana (Boys)	AWAY	6:00pm
11/08	Golby High Tournament (Boys)	Golby	9:00am
11/13	West Gadsden	AWAY	5:30/6:30pm
11/18	Crossroads Academy (Boys)	AWAY	5:00pm
11/20	Tallavana (Boys)	AWAY	6:00pm
12/04	Marianna	AWAY	6/7:00pm
12/06	Superintendent's Classic (Boys Only)	HMS	9:00am
12/08	Community Christian	HOME	5:00pm
12/10	FAMU DRS	HOME	6/7:00pm
12/18	Crossroad Academy	AWAY	5:00pm
01/16	Havana Magnet	AWAY	5:30/6:30pm
01/20	West Gadsden	HOME	5:30/6:30pm

WGMS: Girls (5:30pm) and Boys (6:30pm)

Date	Opponent	Location	Time
11/07	FAMU DRS	HOME	5:30pm
11/13	Shanks Middle	HOME	5:30pm
11/14	Crossroad Academy (Boys Only)	HOME	5:00pm
11/17	Community Christian	HOME	5:30pm
11/19	Havana Magnet	HMS	9:00am
12/01	FAMU DRS	AWAY	6:00pm
12/06	Superintendent's Classic (Boys Only)	AWAY	9:00am
12/11	Havana Magnet	AWAY	5:30pm
12/12	Crossroad Academy	AWAY	5:30pm
01/09	Community Christian	AWAY	6:30pm
01/20	Shanks Middle	AWAY	5:30pm



GADSDEN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT FACILITIES